

our community and Nation, in addition to raising our families. Ellen's leadership in the League of Women Voters inspired both men and women to use our education to volunteer, seek public office, and take leadership roles in improving our government, our libraries, and our public schools, and the lives of those who were not as fortunate as us. Many of the women who have served Johnson County so exceptionally well as mayors, city council members, school board members and legislators were motivated, supported and inspired by Ellen Laner.

Madam Speaker, we were fortunate to know Ellen Laner, and we are so very grateful for what she contributed to our lives. I am grateful to this House for giving me the opportunity to share this tribute with my fellow Members of Congress and with the American people.

THE WEBCASTER SETTLEMENT ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, September 27, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to make clear that no provision of H.R. 7084 should be construed to opine on what entity or entities can be considered a "receiving agent" under 17 U.S.C. Section 114(g)(4). I understand that there is ongoing litigation pertaining to the qualifications of a receiving agent and I would not want H.R. 7084 to influence a court's ultimate decision on this matter.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Bill Number: H.R. 2638.

Account: Military Construction, Army Reserve National Guard.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: New York National Guard.

Address of Requesting Entity: 330 Old Niskayuna Road, Latham, NY 12110.

Description of Request: \$2.955 million will be used for the establishment of an additional Civil Support Team. This team, located within the New York City metropolitan area, ensures that the top terrorist target in the country, New York City, has an immediate and prepared asset, ready at a moments notice, if a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, high explosive, CBRNE, incident were to occur.

LETTER TO REPRESENTATIVE
McCOTTER FROM THE LITHUANIAN
AMBASSADOR TO THE
UNITED STATES, AUDRIUS
BRŪZGA

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to place into the RECORD a letter from

Ambassador Audrius Brūzga of Lithuania regarding House Concurrent Resolution 255.

EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Washington, DC, September 29, 2008.

Congressman THADDEUS McCOTTER,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I am aware that on September 25, 2008 the United States House of Representatives passed the House Concurrent Resolution 255: Expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States commitment to preservation of religious and cultural sites and condemning instances where sites are desecrated.

I write to express my astonishment and utter surprise that such a Resolution was submitted for vote at the time when the process of finding a solution to the issue of the former Snipiskės Jewish cemetery is at its final stages and all the interested parties are in agreement of the necessary steps and actions.

You may well be aware that on June 25 through July 5 geophysical investigation was carried out by a contractor company from Israel Geotec on 14 chosen areas. Alongside with the geophysical investigation, archeological investigation was carried out by the Lithuanian Cultural Heritage Department.

On September 22nd, based on the results of the said investigations the Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Affairs Petras Vaitiekūnas, Head of the Government working group for the preservation of the former Jewish cemetery in Snipiskės, presented recommendations to the Government of Lithuania on further steps regarding the preservation of the former Snipiskės cemetery. One of the recommendations of the working group is for the competent Lithuanian institutions—Vilnius City Municipality, Governor Administration of Vilnius County, the Ministry of Culture—with the participation of the representatives from the Jewish community and the owners of the territory of former cemetery—to organize an open international competition for the monumentalization of the former Snipiskės Jewish cemetery site.

Furthermore, the former Jewish cemetery in Snipiskės has gained legal protection in compliance with the decision of the Department of Cultural Heritage under the Ministry of Culture. The Register of Cultural Heritage of the Republic of Lithuania guarantees the permanent preservation of the former cemetery site.

During the whole process, the Lithuanian Government has demonstrated commitment to resolving the controversy over former Jewish cemetery in Snipiskės by involving Lithuanian and international experts, historians, geophysical survey experts, cartographers and archeologists, and International Jewish communities, as well as allocating appropriate resources for research and analyses. The Government of Lithuania has worked closely and will continue to work with the representatives of the Committee for the Preservation of Jewish Cemeteries in Europe and with other Jewish organizations, in search of a mutually acceptable solution.

Mr. Congressman, Jewish culture, history, sacred sites and traditions are part of Lithuania's national heritage. Sadly, during the period of Nazi and Soviet occupations (1940–1991) much of this has been lost or decimated. It takes time and painstaking efforts to undo the damage. Allow me to assure you that the Government is committed to the preservation of all of the cultural heritage in Lithuania and is doing so in a manner which is consistent with rule of law and justice. It is disappointing when this is not appreciated by the colleagues in the U.S.

Lithuania and the United States are close allies. We share the freedom agenda and we stand together in defence of our shared values. I am certain that we will continue to cherish our strong bonds of partnership.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

AUDRIUS BRŪZGA,
Ambassador.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IMMIGRATION OVERSIGHT AND FAIRNESS ACT, H.R. 7255

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, on any given day, roughly 30,000 immigration detainees are held in a mix of federal, state, local and private detention facilities. Explosive growth in the number of non-citizens in immigration detention across the country has resulted in sometimes shameful conditions of confinement and repeated incidents of detainee abuse.

Although federal immigration authorities adopted detention standards in 1998 and 2000, you wouldn't know it today. These non-binding standards, which cover access to medical care, the separation of violent and non-violent suspects, and access to a lawyer, have not been enforced.

It is long past time that Congress make the federal government abide by its own detention standards. That is why today I am introducing the Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act of 2008.

The bill establishes long-overdue legally binding detention standards for all immigration detention facilities.

The Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act also establishes legally binding standards for Customs and Border Patrol stations which, though not technically detention facilities, house immigrants for a few hours or a few days before their transfer to immigration authorities.

Finally, the Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act treats those detainees who a judge determines are not a flight risk or a threat to society in a more humane and rational way. Under this bill, these individuals would be placed in a proven program of supervised release instead of in a detention facility where the federal government must expend enormous resources to feed, house and watch over them.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to the House considering these critical reforms of the immigration detention system in the next Congress.

ATCHISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to the Atchison County Courthouse which will recognize the 125th Anniversary of